

ANNOTATIONES ZOOLOGICAE JAPONENSES

Volume 22, No. 2—June 1943

Published by the Zoological Society of Japan

On Two New Ophidioid Fishes from the Japan Sea

MASAO KATAYAMA

Toyo-oka Middle School, Hyōgoken

Two new ophidioid fishes described in the present paper were both obtained in the neighbourhood of Moroyose, Hyōgo-ken, situated on the coast of the Japan Sea.

I wish to return here with my gratitude to Dr. A. Terao and Dr. K. Matsubara for their kindness extended to me in various ways. My hearty thanks are also due to Mr. T. Tanaka who submitted a valuable specimen for the present investigation.

Gengea, n. g.

Body elongate and compressed. Mouth terminal; teeth on jaws, vomer, and palatines. Gill opening rather small. Lateral line running along the middle of the side, obsolete posteriorly. Scales small and circular, embedded in the skin, present except on head, belly, and pectorals. Dorsal inserted above slightly before the origin of anal. Ventral fin absent.

Type species: *Gengea japonica*, n. sp.

This genus differs from *Bothrocara* Bean in having smooth head, and posterior origin of dorsal. From *Gymnelopsis* Soldatov it differs in having scales developed on trunk, tail, and unpaired fins, and posterior origin of dorsal.

Gengea japonica, n. sp.

Japanese name: Nirami-genge

D. 93; A. 89; P. 11

Head 6.48 in total length; depth 11.88; distance from tip of snout

to vent 3.24. Eye 4.40 in head; interorbital space 9.42; snout 5.50; maxillary 2.27; postorbital part of head 1.73; pectoral 2.27.

Body elongate, compressed, tapering into a pointed caudal. Head somewhat depressed, quadrate in cross section, nearly as deep as wide; snout short and blunt; interorbital space slightly convex; cheeks full and swollen. Mouth rather large, maxillary extending to below posterior margin of pupil. Jaws equal; lips thickened; teeth small, but stout, in a single series on upper jaw; teeth on lower jaw in a single series in front and on the sides with several series forming a patch near the symphysis;

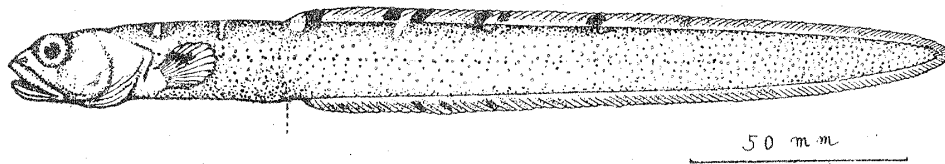


Fig. 1. *Gengea japonica*, n. g. n. sp.

a few teeth clustered at the head of vomer; palatine with a single series. Tongue thick, rounded, rather long, and free in front. Gill opening rather small, equal to pupil, the membranes broadly joined to the isthmus. Nostrils tubular, nearer the tip of snout than the eye. Lateral line running along the middle of the side, obsolete posteriorly.

Head, nape, belly, and pectorals naked; scales of body small, circular, and embedded in the skin.

Pectoral rather short, about 2.5 times in the distance from its origin to anal. Ventral absent. Dorsal inserted above slightly before the origin of anal, both dorsal and anal fins about equal in height.

Color in formalin light brown, about six whitish cross bands on dorsal side of body, those from third to sixth each extending to dorsal. Dorsal with six black blotches, anal dusky. Pectoral with a black blotch.

The above description and figure are based upon a specimen 214 mm in total length, obtained by Mr. Takesi Tanaka, of the Moroyose Normal School, at Moroyose, Hyōgo-ken.

Differs from *Gymnelopsis ocellatus* Soldatov, amongst others, in having the following characteristics: (1) vomer without two canines; (2) scales developed on trunk, tail, and unpaired fins; (3) dorsal inserted posteriorly; (4) pectoral fin with a black blotch; (5) more anal rays (67–75 in *G. ocellatus*).

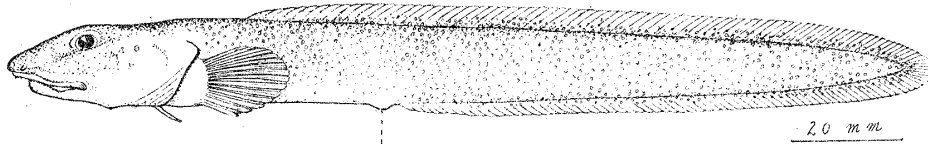
Lycodes teraoi, n. sp.

Japanese name: Hina-genge

D. 75; A. 64; P. 15; V. 3

Head 4.76 in total length; depth 10.18; distance from tip of snout to vent 2.43; that from origin of ventral to anal 3.62. Eye 5.66 in head; interorbital space 17.00; snout 3.09; maxillary 2.61; postorbital part of head 2.00; pectoral 2.26; ventral 6.80.

Body elongate, compressed, tapering to a pointed caudal. Head depressed; interorbital space narrow and slightly convex. Mouth moderate, maxillary extending to below middle of eye. Lower jaw entirely

Fig. 2. *Lycodes teraoi*, n. sp.

included under the upper jaw which projects beyond the lower by a distance nearly equal to half the length of eye. Teeth small, but stout, on jaws, vomer, and palatines. Tongue thick, bluntly pointed, not free in front. Gill opening rather large, about equal to maxillary, the membranes broadly joined to the isthmus. Nostrils with small fleshy tubes. Lateral line rudimentary, running along the middle of the side, obsolete posteriorly. Peritoneum brownish black.

Scales small and circular, embedded in the skin, present except on head, the middle of the belly, pectorals, and ventrals.

Dorsal inserted above middle of pectoral. Anal inserted under the 15th dorsal ray. Dorsal higher than anal. Pectoral rather short. Ventral very short and filamentous.

Color uniformly pale greyish pink.

The above description and figure are based upon a specimen 163 mm in total length, obtained by motor-trawlers off Tsuiyama, near Moroyose, at a depth of about 100 fathoms. The measurements of 4 other specimens from the same locality are as follows:

Total length in mm	158	161	163	147
Head in total length	4.65	4.60	4.53	4.90
Depth in total length	9.30	9.47	10.18	9.80
Eye in head	5.23	5.38	5.54	5.00
Snout in head	3.40	3.50	3.27	3.16

Distance from tip of snout to vent in total length	2.36	2.40	2.40	2.51
Distance from origin of pectoral to anal in total length	3.76	3.66	3.32	3.67
Pectoral in head	2.12	2.33	2.12	2.00
Ventral in head	9.71	6.36	8.00	6.00
D.	76	76	77	76
A.	65	67	65	66
P.	15	16	16	16

The present species rather closely resembles the Arctic species *L. attenuatus* Knipowitsch, but differs from it in having the lower depth, scales on unpaired fins, and smaller number of rays of dorsal and anal (D. 96; A. 82-83 in *L. attenuatus*).

LITERATURE

- Jordan, D. S. & B. W. Evermann 1898 The fishes of North and Middle America. Bull. U. S. Nat. Mus., 3, No. 47.
- Jordan, D. S. & H. W. Fowler 1902 A review of the ophidioid fishes of Japan. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 25, No. 1303.
- Knipowitsch, N. 1905 Ichthyologische Untersuchungen in Eismeer. I. *Lycodes* und *Lycenchelys*. Mém. L'Acad. Imp. Sci. St.-Petersbourg, Ser. 8; 19, No. 1.
- Okada, Y. & K. Matsubara 1938 Keys to the fishes and fishlike animals of Japan (in Japanese).
- Soldatov, V. K., & G. J. Lindberg 1930 A review of the fishes of the Far East. Bull. Pacif. Sci. Fish. Inst., 5, No. 5.